

AN APPEAL TO SAVE RIVERSIDE PARK

Should Become Community Recreation Place—Chance for Civic Societies to Do Great Work

Riverside Park is for sale. Wouldn't it be a good thing to arrange some way to secure this delightful place for a city park? This beauty spot properly handled would be of inestimable value to the city as a whole as a recreation resort for the people of our own community and as an attraction to the people in our neighboring cities which have no resort places. An asset of this character should never be permitted to remain in the hands of private owners. It is altogether a community blessing, and should be owned by the city as a whole and utilized to the utmost in the promotion of the health and happiness of all the people.

Here we have a fine bathing place; it ought to be free to all under proper supervision. We have an ideal camping ground with beautiful natural shade; it ought to be available for all sorts of moral public summer time meetings, religious, fraternal, political or of whatever nature. Here, the Daily Citizen believes, is the opportunity for the civic organizations to get together and provide for the recreational needs of our people by purchasing this tract of land while it can be had at a comparatively low figure. Incorporate a park society; make a memorial park of it if you please; and provide for its improvement and upkeep.

Stop and consider. Can you think of a grander thing, than to provide a beautiful public park for the city? Diversion and recreation of a wholesome character is just as important to the life of a city as its educational facilities, its business, or even its religious institutions. Why Baxter Springs people are so indifferent to the great worth of the natural beauties of her location, and why some of these beauty spots have been permitted to fall into the hands of private owners and become forever effaced, is the source of wonderment to the strangers who come here?

Are we going to allow this indifference to continue until we are altogether robbed of our park sites? Is there not a sufficient number of people here who love the beauties of nature, and appreciate their value enough to come now to the rescue and save this last remaining park site for public enjoyment?

The Daily Citizen is very serious over this subject and we believe all who take time to think about it, will say we have a right to be. We submit the proposition to the Chamber of Commerce, the Woman's Chamber of Commerce, the Baxter Woman's Club, and like societies, for their earnest and early consideration. The property is up for sale and the community is very liable to lose this opportunity unless it acts quickly.

We let the historical Spring Park slip away from us by our lack of public spirit. Shall we do the same with Riverside Park?

We say no! Come on!

GAS RATES

Carthage, Mo., March 5.—City Attorney George Crowder received a certified copy of an order of the state public service commission today suspending the proposed gas rate increase for twenty days from March 17, the date on which the new rate was to have taken effect. This blocks action on the matter until and including July 14, and will give the commission time to consider the protests which have been filed against the increase in gas rates.

Certified copies of the order also have been received by city officials of Webb City and Cartersville.

This action by the public service commission is the outcome of a meeting of city attorneys of Carthage, Webb City and Cartersville held in Webb City last Friday, at which time plans were made for action to be taken against the rate advance. Protests from the three towns, which were made uniform, were drawn and filed with the commission Saturday night. The order of the commission was dated Monday, which is the time the protests reached that body.

The Quapaw interests are involved in this action.

THIRTY-FIFTH SAILS IN APRIL

The last of the middle western divisions will be home by July 1, according to reports.

The statement at the war department that the sailing schedule as announced should not only be adhered to but possibly might be speeded up, makes this assumption possible. This schedule, as it now stands, gives the 35th as the fourth division to sail in April, and the 89th as the first to sail in June.

The 89th division will follow the 35th shortly, according to the schedule, only six divisions embarking between them. It should reach Camp Funston by July 1. Because of its position in the army of occupation, it will probably sail from a French port.

OF PUBLIC INTEREST

The Juniors of the local High School will present to the public tonight night in the opera house, "The Adventures of a College Bride." The Juniors have striven hard. Each character in the play has been especially selected. They have rehearsed and rehearsed until many of the characters in the play would do credit to much heavier work. The dramatization in this play is well set and worked out in such a manner that it is most fitting for the Juniors.

The point we desire to impress upon the public is this: The Juniors are our children and we, as citizens, fathers and mothers, owe them very much. It is our duty to fill the opera house to overflowing. Lay aside, then, whatever you may have on hand for tomorrow night and demonstrate your interest in your sons and daughters.

TOWN TOPICS

Property owners on east Thirteenth street are displeased over the fact that the rural telephone company was permitted to run their line from the east into the city on that street. They object to the unsightly poles and feel that the line could have been run in the alley without inconveniencing the telephone people in the least and at the same time help to preserve the beauty of the street. One property owner has been converted to the city manager idea. He says he has been trying to discover some one who is responsible for such things in the city but has failed entirely.

A fine young man, recently returned from overseas, has rented a house in the city and next Wednesday is going to marry one of Baxter's fair young maidens. They'll make a couple we'll be proud to have in our business and social circles—but we are pledged not to tell any more until after the happy event takes place.

A flaccid encounter between two of Baxter's popular young men Wednesday afforded plenty of conversation in sport circles. The general verdict appears to have been that the aggressor took on more than he anticipated and got just about what he had coming.

A lady Wednesday bumped into one of the posts that support one of the few unsightly wood awnings on Military street. The things she said about the owner of the building we are not permitted by the postal laws to print. The city is liable to have a damage suit on its hands one of these days. Some one will knock the props out and the owning will fall on him and maybe others.

W. W. Wakeman, who came down from his Missouri home the first of the week to look after his interests here, admitted that he has under consideration the building of several dwelling houses in the Wakeman addition in the southwest part of town.

REPORTED AT THE TRI-STATE MEETING

A report of the present status of the concrete road between Baxter and Picher was made at the regular weekly meeting of the Tri-State operators at Picher, Wednesday noon, by Chas. Wells, representing both the Tri-State committee and that of the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Wells reported that all indications point to the fact that if the road is built, it must be along the Chetopa highway, as it will be a far easier matter to finance the project. He reported also the action of Baxter in securing the introduction of a bill in congress by Congressman P. P. Campbell and Senator Curtis of \$40,000 for a concrete road between Baxter and the National Cemetery, two miles west of the city. Others from Baxter who attended the Tri-State luncheon on Wednesday were E. M. Richardson, O. M. Spratt, C. M. Sarchet and J. H. Hannash.

Conflicting Thoughts



COUNTY MAP OF CHEROKEE

One Hundred and Sixty-four Miles County Highway Entitled to Help in County Maintenance

County Engineer Cooper has donated a fine county map showing the designated county roads in Cherokee county to the good roads boosters who went to Columbus Wednesday. There are 164 miles of county highway so recognized by the court and entitled to county help in maintenance. Baxter Springs comes in for her share of this mileage with a main line west known as the Chetopa Highway and the road leading west from town that taps the Galena good road and thru Lowell to the Military highway.

The latter road and the Chetopa highway are designated Federal aid roads which means that the Federal government has agreed to spend \$25 for every \$75 raised by township, county or subscription for the building of permanent highways.

Uncle Sam has just voted millions of dollars to be spent in the U. S. this year. There is a fund now available in Kansas of \$2,295,068.01 for good roads that must be petitioned for before June first this year. Every county in Kansas is entitled to as much of this fund as they can show actual need and ability to use it in a permanent road building campaign.

The people of this corner of the state should put themselves on the back that they have three commissioners who want to spend some of this big money and that in Calvin Cooper they have an engineer who ranks up with the big fellows. Mr. Cooper when seen by a man for the Baxter good road boosters had just wound up a very successful road meeting with the enthusiasts from Labette County and the western part of this county—great things are in store for the farms and towns the country over in the way of permanent highways. Any other subject just now will not get much attention around the corner store heating stove or in the circles of the big fellows who are trying to get the roads of Kansas up out of the mud.

There is no better way to demonstrate what President Wilson meant when he said he wanted the great army of idle men in this country employed than to add that he signed a bill which appropriates millions of dollars to be spent in the construction of good roads immediately. If the farmers and merchants of any locality from this time on will get together and name their committee and get out their petitions, they can have good roads. The Federal government and the State and county stand ready to do their part. Be a good roads booster.

Miss Beatrice Titus was the week end guest of Miss Mary Mills, of Joplin.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Davidson left Monday for Elk City, Kan., for a short visit with Mr. Davidson's mother.

Mrs. Chas. L. Smith entertained at Auction Bridge at her home Wednesday.

Mrs. R. J. Alger was in Joplin Tuesday on business.

SOCIAL NOTES

The O. S. Club met in regular session Wednesday afternoon in the Masonic Hall with an attendance of twenty-one. The Club was opened with the usual business session and the program carried out in response to the roll call was unique and interesting. Needlework and social conversation formed the diversions of the afternoon. Piano selections by Mrs. Walter Winn and readings by Mrs. W. T. Hartley added to the afternoon enjoyment. The hostesses, Mesdames J. W. Cook, Fairfax Barnes and T. Conner served a delightful one course luncheon to the following ladies: Mesdames J. F. Brown, J. W. Barnes, W. T. Earls, Ray Hartley, Frank Hartley, L. D. Hodgkins, Q. Manker, P. D. Hartley, Frank McDonald, W. T. Hartley, J. B. Opperman, Willard Shultz, S. H. Smith, Ray Warner, Wm. Waugh, A. B. Willard, O. C. Rummell and Walter Winn, Mrs. A. B. Willard will entertain the Club in her home at the next meeting.

The Aid Society of the Methodist church met Wednesday afternoon in the assembly room of the Methodist church with an attendance of 23 members. The president, Mrs. B. H. Shields, opened the meeting with devotional service followed by the business session at which plans were completed for the Industries banquet. Those present were Mesdames B. H. Shields, James Simmons, Shubert Harman, Hunt, Moore, Grubaugh, M. I. Nichols, Margaret Meads, Chas. Polster, E. G. Polster, S. J. Cook, A. B. Willard, O. B. Opperman, Aul, E. L. Clark, L. M. Cardin, Alla Baker, O. L. Orton, F. M. Congdon, Traylor, R. M. Gilman and J. Sawyer Cannon.

The Auction Bridge club was pleasantly entertained Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Charles Smith at 1230 East Fourteenth street. The afternoon was spent at Auction Bridge, there being three tables of players. After several spirited games on counting the score it was found Mrs. A. R. Weaver held high and was awarded a pretty pair of linen towels. At the close of the afternoon the hostess served an appetizing one course luncheon. The guests present were Mesdames Earl Confer, Walter Scott, J. R. Cole III, L. O. Treece, Enoch Perkins, Leonard Tuthill; and club members present were Mesdames L. M. Perkins, A. R. Weaver, Chas. Opperman, W. T. Apple, J. H. Boswell, A. R. Kane and Wesley M. Smith. At a recent meeting of this club officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Mrs. L. M. Perkins; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. W. T. Apple. The club will meet again March 19th, the hostess to be announced later.

The Aid Society of the Christian church met Wednesday afternoon in the church parlor with a very good attendance. The usual business of the society was taken up after which the election of officers took place. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year. President Mrs. T. O. Shields; vice president, Mrs. F. E. Phillips; treasurer, Mrs. Foster; secretary, Mrs. Harriet Dowty. The social hour was followed by the business session which was most enjoyable. The following ladies served delicious refreshments: Mesdames G. T. McKee, S. M. Hartley and Harriet Dowty. Those present were Mesdames Lucy Johnson, Randolph, Earl Grubaugh, Betty Lewis, F. E. Phillips, Kelly Carmichael, B. B. Asbury, Fred Stallsmith, Maggie Foster, G. T. McKee, S. M. Hartley, T. O. Shields, John Jennings, R. A. Rosenstein, Hardwan and R. E. Rardin.

SOLDIERS' LETTERS

St. Sulpice, Feb. 8, 1919.

Dear Friend:—Will answer your letter that I received the 12th of January and was glad to hear from you. We are both all O. K. and hope that this letter finds you the same. How is everything in the states now? Sure wish that I was there to go to a good old hop; it has been so long that I don't know whether I could dance or not. These brags over here have a dance once in a while but we never get to go to them but they don't dance like we do. I guess you understand what I mean about the frogs—that is what we call the French people is frogs, ha, ha. They call us Ameek, Lots of them wear wooden shoes. You have seen these Indian canoes haven't you? That is the way their wooden shoes are made. You can hear one coming for a mile down the road; you would think there was a dozen coming but there isn't but one. They drag them along on the ground to keep from losing them.

If they don't take me across the pond pretty quick I think I will get me a pair of those wooden shoes and sail across before long, ha, ha. Say, you had ought to see me. I am sure getting fat eating shun. We have it three times a day; of course that is what we call it. We sure have some funny names for our stuff over here, ha, ha.

Oh Say, I saw a woman coming down the road the other day in a cart and what do you suppose that she was driving to that cart? It was a dog. Sure did look funny when I saw her. We sure see some funny sights over here some times. I saw a French piano the other day. When they want it to play they have to crank it up like it was a Ford before it will play, ha, ha. Gee those folks who are working for must be early risers. I tell you turn the clock back before you go to bed and fool them once, ha, ha.

I am mad at the French girls over here. You know my gal run me off other night when I went to see her; she told me to hollie to tweet, this means to go and not to come back, ha, ha. There sure are some pretty girls but the worst part you can't understand what they say; to the devil with the frog gals any how.

You wanted to know how many times a day I burn my fingers. That would be hard to do. I say the Golden Text every time that I have to mix a dough; it only takes 450 pounds of flour to mix one dough and we make about seven or eight doughs every 12 hours. We have to mix the dough by hand, don't have any mixers over here. Don't you think you would like to be a baker, ha, ha.

Say, I sure would like to be there and go to Kate's dance. Tennie, if you go you want to dance one set for you and me, ha, ha. We do not have any fun over here much for we don't get to go any place much. We have to get a pass from our Lieutenant every time we leave camp and then we can't stay out but a few hours at a time. If we run off and go without a pass the Military Police would catch us and put us in the guard house.

Well, I guess I will close for this time as you will get tired of reading this foolishness. I am sending you a card of a French girl. Isn't she cute, ha, ha. Answer soon. Hoping to get a long letter from you next time, as ever your friend,

Pvt. Melvin Thompson.

The following letter was written by Jack Shafer to his mother, Mrs. Vina Shafer, of Baxter.

My Dear Mother:—Well Mother dear, I suppose you are anxious to hear from your son and I am anxious to hear from you, but the only thing I want and want bad is to come home. I am having a pretty good time this week, the first vacation since I am in the army. I am under orders to leave here. Maybe to go up into Germany to make pictures but as our car is broken down we have been unable to start, but I hardly think it will be much longer to wait. I am sure we will enjoy the trip. The only thing that will make it unpleasant will be the cold weather, but, however, the government sure provides us with warm equipment. Mother, you can't realize what the Liberty Loans and givings of the U. S. people has done for the boys abroad. The Red Cross is an organization that will be praised by the A. E. F. boys for years to come, for they have done astonishing work abroad and we are always willing to give a helping hand to the needy. Perhaps you see a good many of the boys coming home, but mother, it will be some time before I return.

BOOZE BREEDS A LOT OF TROUBLE

Young Man Winds Up His Business Career with an Unenviable Experience

Clyde Phillips, proprietor of the Globe clothing store just closed by him, languished in the city jail Thursday afternoon awaiting his hearing on the charges of violating the bone dry law and toting a gun. The county attorney came down yesterday to attend to the state's side of the case. The case comes as a sequel to a fight that occurred Wednesday in one of the pool halls. According to reports Phillips entered the place and with a curse on his lips proceeded to pick a fight with Charlie Baker, of the Empire hotel. In fact, bystanders say that he actually attacked Baker. But he misjudged his man. Baker gave his assailant very much the worst of the battle. He had Phillips down and was pounding him heavily when bystanders pulled him off. To avoid further trouble Baker left the place and went into a plumbing shop. But Phillips followed and with a pocket full of billiard balls declared he was going to finish Baker. He was stopped, however, and placed under arrest.

Phillips paid a fine and costs for his escapade and promised the judge that he would go home and not try to make any more trouble.

Instead, it seems, he went to Joplin, where he filled up again to the brim, and with a reserve cargo of two quarts on the outside, and a gun, came back to Baxter Springs Thursday morning and started in to make more trouble. He was arrested by Marshal Horton and locked up. The booze was found on his person.

Phillips was intoxicated when he attacked Baker. He has been drinking heavily for some time and his downfall, which appears to be about complete, is wholly the result of his associations with John Barleycorn and other weak young men. When sober he is a good fellow and a business man of more than ordinary ability.

C. W. B. M.

The Woman's Missionary Society will meet at the church Tuesday afternoon at 2:30.

1. Business.
- Interesting announcements of Easter Week of Prayer.
11. Devotional, Mrs. B. F. Hoskins.
- Hymn, Circle of Prayer, Bible Study, The Book of Malchi by Mrs. W. S. Cassidy.
111. Program, Mrs. Dills.
- Hymn; Hidden Answers, Mrs. Stallsmith; General Topic, Enlarging Opportunities for the Women of the Orient; Sub-topics, Mrs. C. H. Beavers.
- Talk, Mrs. J. T. Polster. Mrs. Polster will show objects collected on her trip to Palestine and the Orient. This feature alone will merit your attendance upon this meeting.

NEW DRY CLEANING PLANT IN BAXTER

The French cleaners and dyers, with their modern machinery and skilled workmen, are doing wonderful work for Baxter. They are guaranteeing all their work and promise satisfaction on the finest of garments. This plant of the French cleaners and dyers should be appreciated by the people of Baxter as it sure is a fine thing for any town to have—a reliable cleaning plant. The French Cleaners are giving 24 hour service on all cleaning and pressing, lots of people are also taking advantage of their fine line of tailor-made suits.

The war is over but still we have to stay over here. Yes, it is a home for the officers. Some of them are making more money than they ever made in their lives and we have to stay over here and suffer for them so that they may hold their jobs. Do you think that right? Now listen, mother, the only way the boys are going to get home is by the people of the U. S. A. You don't know, mother. Get hold of some one of the boys who have been over here and he will tell you.

I am at the Y now with my friend from New York. We are going to see the show, some seven reel feature and then take in a supper tonight at the Red Cross. Oh, you won't know your French son when he gets home. He is looking healthy and strong. I will have to close for this time as it is time for the show. Your son, with love.